

Express Mail Label No.: EV553431363US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE (DO/EO/US)

First Named Inventor: Kozo EZAWA, et al. §
§
§
Conf. No.: Not Yet Assigned § Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
§
§
International § Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Appln. No.: PCT/JP2003/009358 §
§
§
International §
Filing Date: (23.07.2003) §
23 July 2003 § Attorney Docket No.: 10407-122US
§ (A3047MT-US1)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The enclosed references were cited in an International Search Report (copy enclosed) dated October 14, 2003 from the Japanese Patent Office concerning counterpart International Application No. PCT/JP2003/009358 and/or cited and discussed in the application. Additional references are also enclosed.

In accordance with the official waiver posted July 11, 2003, wherein the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officially waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications with respect to applications filed after June 30, 2003, we have not included copies of such cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications. However, we will provide copies upon request. Copies of the foreign references are attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Kozo EZAWA, et al.

January 12, 2005
(Date)

Martin G. Belisario

Martin G. Belisario
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 32,886
Direct Dial: 215-965-1303
E-Mail: mbelisario@akingump.com

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
One Commerce Square
2005 Market Street, Suite 2200
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone No.: 215-965-1200
Fax No.: 215-965-1210

MGB:sm
Enclosures

<p>Form PTO/SB/08A</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p>				<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p>
<p>Application Number</p>		<p>Not Yet Assigned</p>		<p>10/521 06 057</p>
<p>Filing Date</p>		<p>Herewith</p>		
<p>First Named Inventor</p>		<p>Kozo EZAWA, et al.</p>		
<p>Group Art Unit</p>		<p>Not Yet Assigned</p>		
<p>Examiner Name</p>		<p>Not Yet Assigned</p>		
<p>Sheet</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>of</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Attorney Docket Number</p>
<p>10407-122US (A3047MT-US1)</p>				

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS		
Exr Initials	Include Name of first Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (where appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), volume-issue number(s), page(s), date (in parentheses). If a book, also include publisher and city and/or country where published.	T ₁

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--